

Seaforth Parent Advisory Council

General Meeting Minutes *for* October 9, 2013

Cheryl -Chair called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Report from our Principal, Mr. Hiltz. Welcome to all parents in attendance at the PAC meeting and welcome to another school year. A special welcome is extended to new parents to the Seaforth School Community. We are very happy to have you with us.

We had to postpone Photo Day due to a power outage. It is rescheduled to Thursday, October 24. A reminder notice will be sent home the day before and we have updated the website as well.

We will always update the school calendar on the website by identifying the event as being POSTPONED, CANCELLED, RESCHEDULED, etc. We will not simply remove an event so that parents do not think the event has just been omitted. We will then post it to the newly scheduled date. We will endeavour to do this whenever possible as to avoid confusion. We ask parents to regularly check the calendar posted on our school website for the most up to date events.

Thank you to all parents who attended the Parent-teacher Intake Meetings. These meetings are very valuable for sharing information with teachers about your children. Teachers find them very helpful and we appreciate everyone making the effort to attend. It is important that parents are partners in the education of their child. Thank you!

We look forward to a wonderful year at Seaforth.

New Business

1. Enrollment was up again this year in both French and English we have 499 students attending Seaforth. This year there is a French K/1 split class which allowed for 12 more spots for kindergarten FI students.
2. New day for the school **photo day, October 24th** this NEW date is posted on web site. Moving forward, we will No longer be removing changes automatically on the web. Instead we will keep up the previous information and just change the date. So not to confuse people who frequent the site for information. Family photo is now full. Thank you to Siva and her team.
3. Our new "**List serve**" should be up and running for our NEXT Newsletter, no more paper! We are hoping that in future, most everything paper we are sending home now will be sent via the "list serve" directly to parents email addresses.

Cheryl Healy, Chairperson

1. **Walking School Bus..** Cheryl suggested having a "walking school bus" from Charles Rummel Park to Seaforth, every morning. She asked for participation in this and put it to the floor. There were no volunteers interested in organizing the "walking school bus" at the time.

Thank you to Maggie Constantine who will be organizing the Earth quake preparedness committee this year.

2. **CPF...** Cynthia spoke to this saying they are now applying for grants. The organizing of this is going on now. French Parents Survival Night is being hosted at Inman Elementary School in the library. There will be a presentation for parents of children in Kindergarten- Gr. 2. There will be an email sent out to give more

information and dates.

The date for this event will be: November 19th at 645pm - talk starts at 7-9pm.

3. **Hot lunch, first of the year.** The grade 6 students delivered the hot lunch last Tuesday; Mr. Hiltz said it went very well. Thank you to the parents who signed up to help with lunch deliveries, but it looks as if the students have things covered this year. Great job everyone!

4. **Playground Committee.** The committee has been busy all summer looking at different ideas and products. Chair was unable to be here tonight. Playground Structure is rusting and showing its age. A replacement plan is in place and there will be opportunities for input on design. Also, she talked about the possibility of a multiuser sports court.... it will be located on bottom field basketball area. The playground committee is doing their best to get information together before she can put it to the PAC at a meeting to a vote on.

Question? Do we have the ability to seek corporate sponsorship? *Mr. Hiltz will look into this*

5. **Donation request letter.** This letter goes out to parents every year, asking for donations for the school. Last year all donations went straight to the new computers for the lab and the iPad purchases. This year Cheryl would like see the donations from the letter to go to the actual classrooms, to help the teachers with extra expenses. The amount that they are receiving now is nowhere near enough; this is really for the children. Cheryl asked attendees about what they thought of this idea? All were in favor either way. Tax receipts are given out with donations over \$20. Suggested donation would be \$30 per child. Online payments were also suggested and put to the floor, everyone was in favor. *Mr. Hiltz will look into this further.* Mr. Hiltz will also ask teachers for quotes to use in this letter to parents, to them a better idea of what they are looking at. Cheryl put it to vote, it was voted in, the letter will go out specifically asking for money for the classroom and teacher wish list items.

6. **A new fund raiser,** Cheryl is suggesting a card making site www.artcardsbykids.com. Your child's art work would go on front of card, child's name and age on back. This was put to Vote and was voted in favor. Cheryl will organize this for teachers who are interested in participating in the program. This will be before Christmas or the Holidays so parents could use the cards.

7. **School garden planning.** There has been interest from a teacher about the school garden. Mr. Hiltz feels there should be more people interested, Cheryl will find out how many more teachers are interested. NOTE: No one is here to care for garden in summer.

8. **Seaforth spook at Boston Pizza – Fundraiser OCTOBER 28th**

Purchase tickets from Cheryl, she needs helpers. Next Tuesday she will set up table to sell tickets, they are only \$10 per family and go straight to PAC. This also reserves a table for your family. Food is not included. Also Sandra pointed out every time you eat at Boston Pizza, write Seaforth school on back of the bill & automatically 10% goes to the school.

9. **Cross walk..** A parent needs to volunteer to be responsible for the grade 6&7 students who will now be doing the crosswalk. Please contact Cheryl or Cynthia if you are interested we need someone ASAP.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM